



TESTIMONY OF
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SUBMITTED TO THE
LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM REVIEW AND INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE
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LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

Good day. My name is Peter Gioia. I am the VP and economist for the Connecticut Business and Industry Association (CBIA). CBIA represents about 10,000 firms, which employ about 700,000 women and men in Connecticut. Our membership consists of firms of all sizes and types, the vast majority of which are small businesses employing fewer than 50 people.

CBIA supports the following bills which ought to improve the state's fiscal performance: HB 6515 An Act Establishing the Office for Maximizing Alternative Revenue, and HB 6514 An Act Implementing the Recommendations of the Program Review and Investigations Committee Concerning Medicaid Payment Integrity.

HB 6515 professionalizes a single point of grants administration and development in Connecticut. This is needed to ensure Connecticut gets its fair share of grant, particularly Federal grant, and opportunities. We would hope that the office would be assigned metrics for performance. Properly administered the office should pay for itself many times over each and every fiscal year.

HB 6514 should shine a light and issue a report on department performance in preventing, tracking down and recovering Medicaid fraud. This is a huge budget area and unfortunately is one where fraud can exist. This should help strengthen efforts to root out such fraud.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.